A Bodzine presents Cornish Lens

DECLARATION OF BODZINE

We believe:

That everyone can create if they are given the means,

In learning from everything,

In acknowledging absences, ambiguity and never thinking in absolutes,

In the freedom and transparency of history

In making for making's sake!

We are a small group with big ideas.

Everyone is different but equal and always welcome here.

Bodmin always, sometimes and never !

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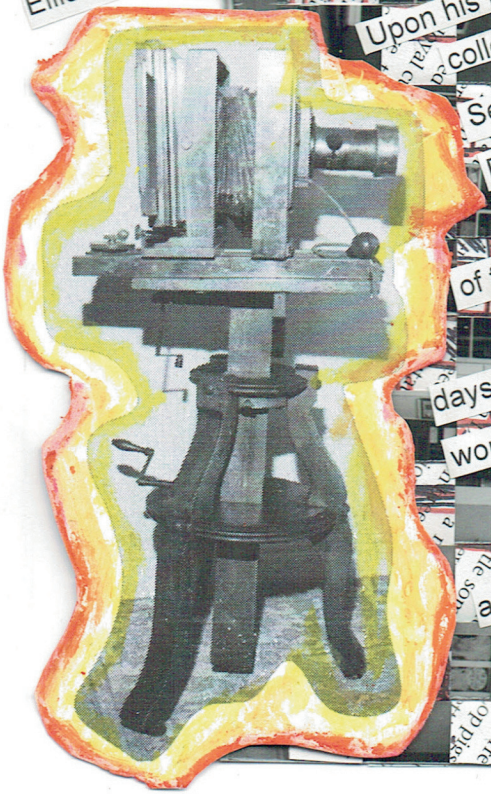
George Ellis

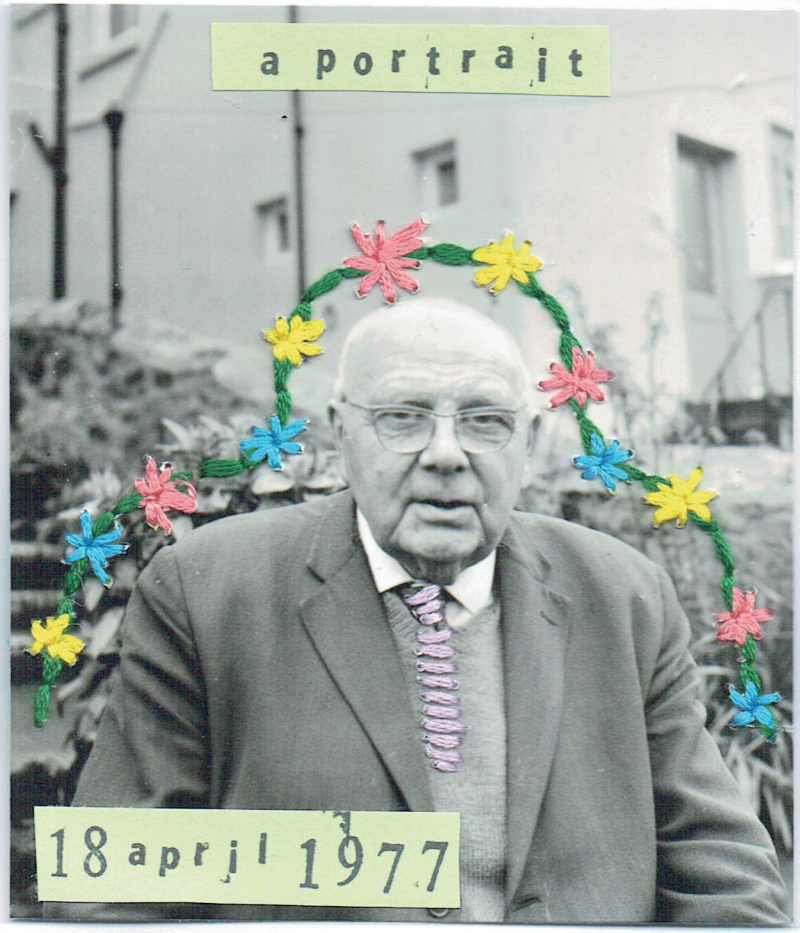
George Ellis was born in London in 1900 and moved to Cornwall during WWII.

A freelance photographer, Ellis documented news stories, events and anything else from the 1930s to 1980s.

Upon his retirement, he sold part of his photography collection to the Cornwall Library Service. In this 100,000 strong collection, Bodmin and its residents feature heavily. Ellis' collection is an outstanding record of the world around him and its happenings – of weddings, carnivals and sports days, of motorsports and agriculture, striking workers and royal visits. The collection is mostly glass plate negatives, which are currently being digitised by the Cornish archive, Kresen Kernow.

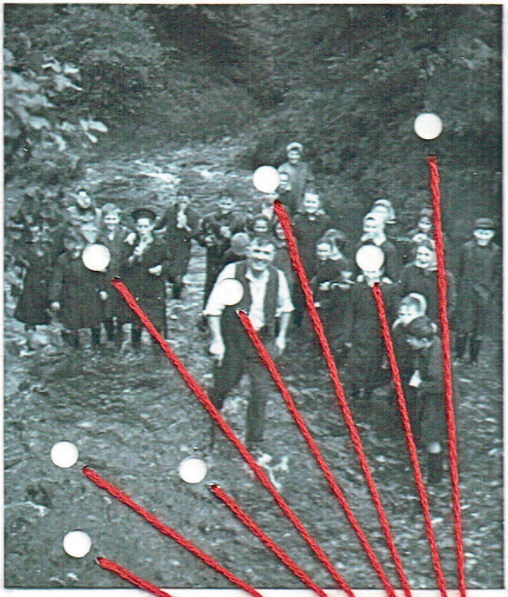


Alongside his successful photography business, Ellis ran a record and photography shop on St Nicholas Street. He is well-known and highly regarded in the Bodmin community, and was a keen singer, pianist and painter until his passing in 1985. He lives on through his many, many photographs.



Look up!

Photography by Jamie Grizzell



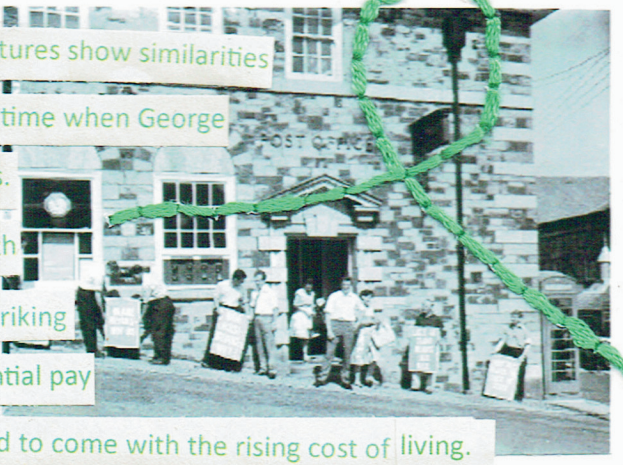
MOMENTUM

a moment flickers and ideas teem,

the words get tangled up,

and lost before I can say them out loud

PHYSICAL CHANGE



Contrastingly, these two pictures show similarities between present day and the time when George Ellis was taking photographs. Not only do these pictures both show postal strikes they are striking for the same reason: a substantial pay increase (in 2023 this is needed to come with the rising cost of living.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Bodmin's sense of place has changed significantly since the 1990's. One way this can be shown is through the lack of social gatherings in particular communal dances in Bodmin's current locale.

These two photos show the temporal change of Bodmin through a physical change. The old building opened as a cinema in 1911, however, it was then knocked down in 1988. The site has since has been rebuilt on and is currently a Cornwall Hospice Care charity shop.

POSTAL STRIKES

I HEAR A STILL IMAGE OF MY TOWN
PHOTOS OF PATHS I'VE WALKED
AND ROADS I'VE TAKEN
AND I FEEL A CHANGE
9

glass plate deterioration # 1

cracked fragile

The Fabulous

EASY-FREEZE

more storage space

In less kitchen space!

I like this particular photo

out of all of Eillis,s work

because, now a days you dont

really see shop windows displayed

out like this anymore.

I especially like the

tomato advert as well.

One way

Photography by Jamie Grizzell

SEEING GREEN

Plants form the basis of all life on Earth; they feed us, clothe us, and shelter us. Many of our medicines are derived from them. Our homes are heated by them, vehicles run on their fossil remains, and through photosynthesis they produce our breathable atmosphere.

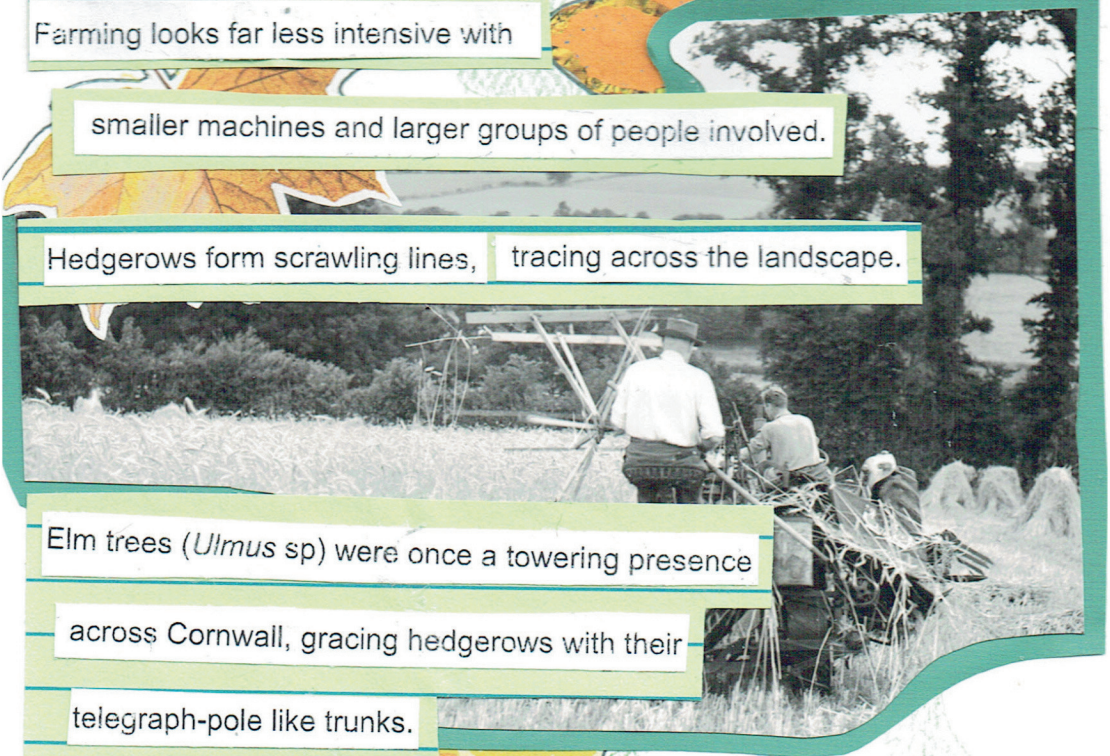
Plants are so crucial for our continued existence, yet their importance is ignored across much of western civilisation.

Plant Awareness Disparity (PAD) is the phenomenon that describes our lack of interest and awareness of plants in urban life, especially when compared to animals.

Continued urbanisation and habitat loss has driven a disconnect of the natural world in young people, severing them from our landscapes and local natural history. It is crucial that we train a new generation of naturalists to reverse loss of knowledge, to foster a new way of seeing.

George Ellis' collection of agricultural photos has allowed me an interesting glimpse into past local landscapes and management practices.

Farming looks far less intensive with smaller machines and larger groups of people involved.



Hedgerows form scrawling lines, tracing across the landscape.

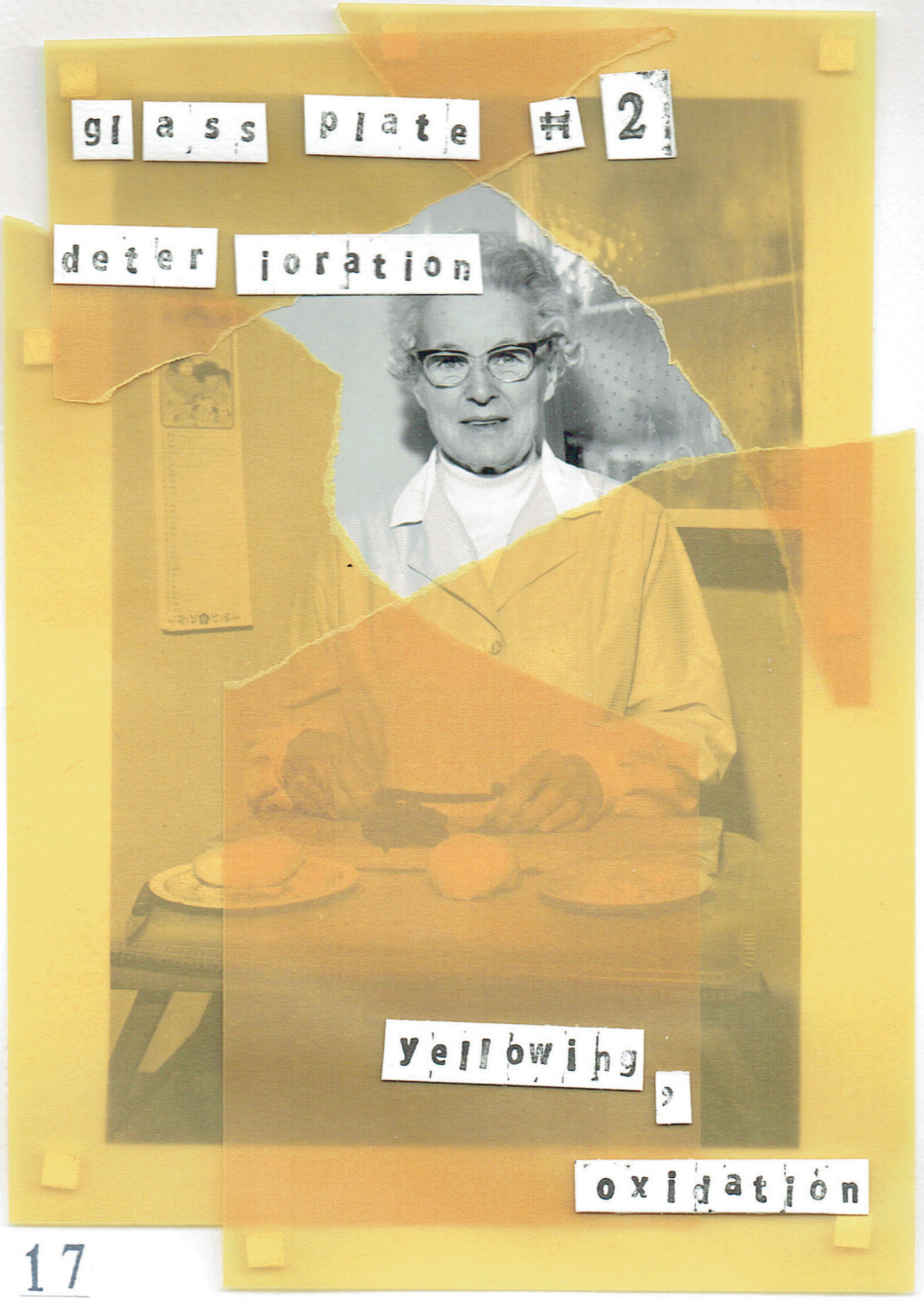
Elm trees (*Ulmus* sp) were once a towering presence across Cornwall, gracing hedgerows with their telegraph-pole like trunks.

Their strong, straight lengths of timber were used extensively in construction, including the local manufacture of Cornish gigs.

Due to the spread of Dutch Elm Disease in the 1960s these once common trees were vastly reduced in number, with large trees now like ghosts, haunting an impoverished land & people.

A similar issue is currently affecting Ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) in the UK, with Ash Die-back wreaking havoc on populations in woodland and hedgerows.

Collective human memory has already largely forgotten the plight of the Elm, and I wonder whether the Ash is likely to suffer a similar fate.


glass plate #2
deterioration
yellowing
oxidation

GLASS DELUSION

I am that thing in between
the morning's running hills and haze
Always felt and never seen,

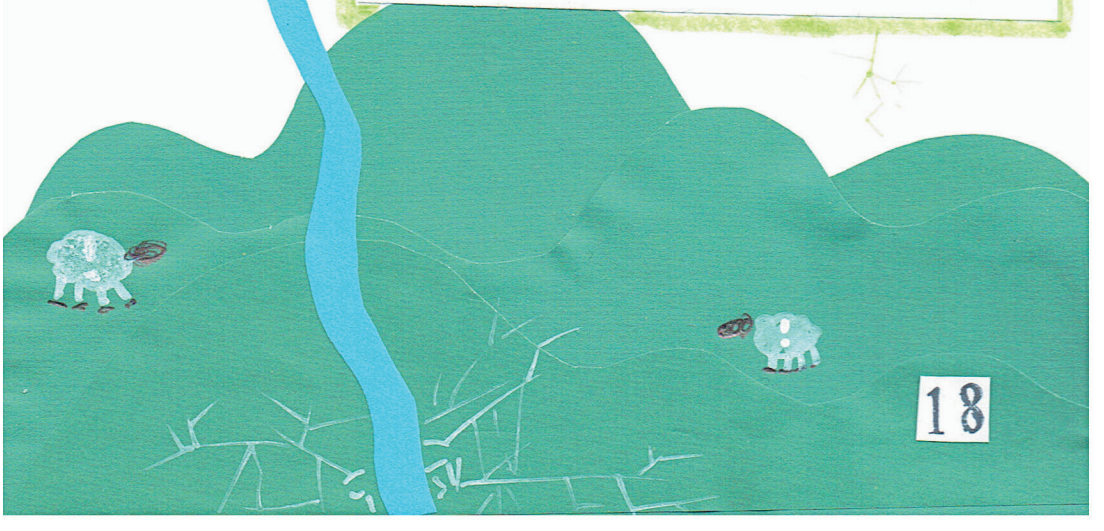
I kiss your memories sweetly green.
Mirroring all that is and decays,
Iam that thing in between

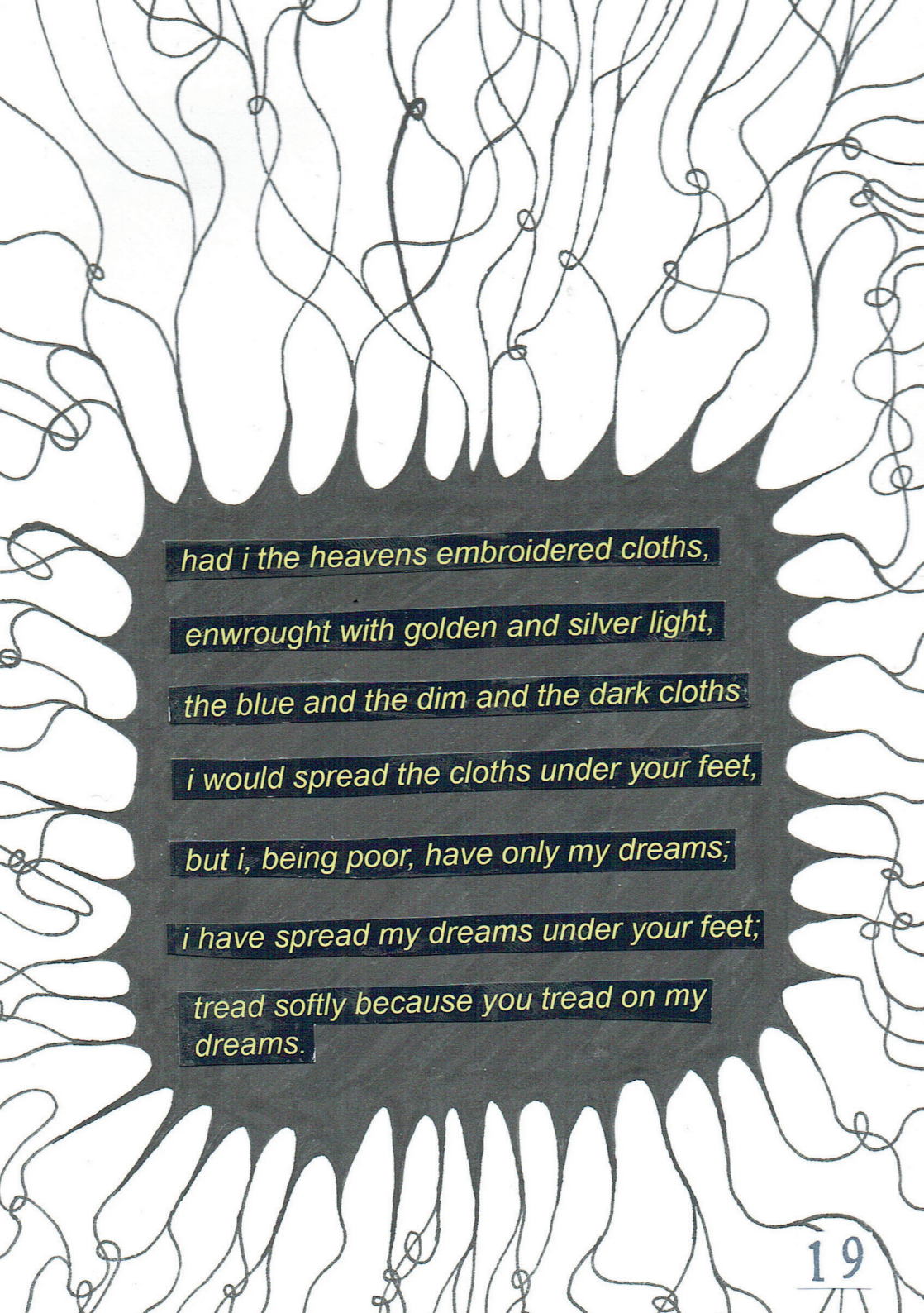
brittleness and breaking. I have been
dreaming of golden sands ablaze,
always felt and never seen,

but wake in sweat and mean
to never leave my bed's soft gaze.
I am that thing in between

ephemera and evergreen
ever-swaddled in the earth's rough sways.
Always felt and never seen,

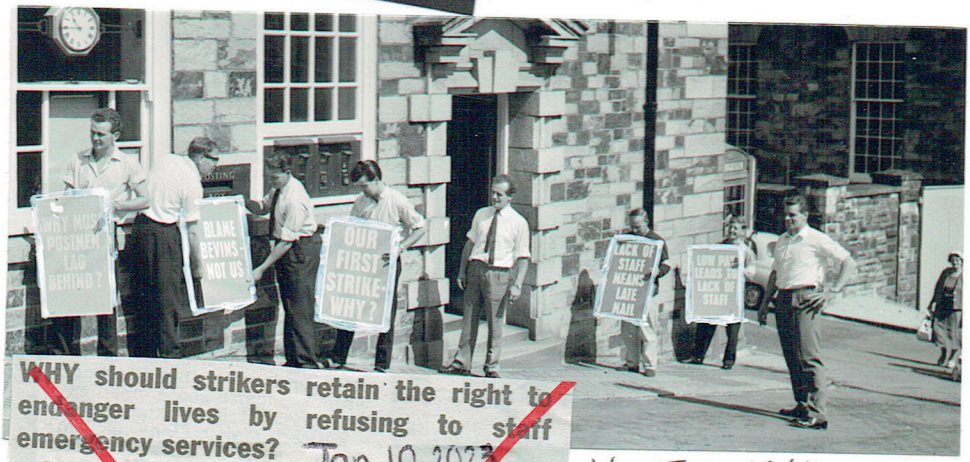
I kiss your memories bitter green.
Look for me in golden days:
I am that thing in between,
always felt and never seen.




had i the heavens embroidered cloths,
enwrought with golden and silver light,
the blue and the dim and the dark cloths
i would spread the cloths under your feet,
but i, being poor, have only my dreams;
i have spread my dreams under your feet;
tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

SKATE CULTURE
SOCIAL
FASHION
HEALTH
LIFESTYLE
20

A PACIFISTS REBELLION



16 Jul 1964

WHY should strikers retain the right to endanger lives by refusing to staff emergency services? Jan 10 2023

Or be allowed to stop kids being taught? Or prevent commuters getting to **THEIR** work?

The Government, in line with many across Europe, wants a law to guarantee unions keep minimum levels of essential services running during walkouts.

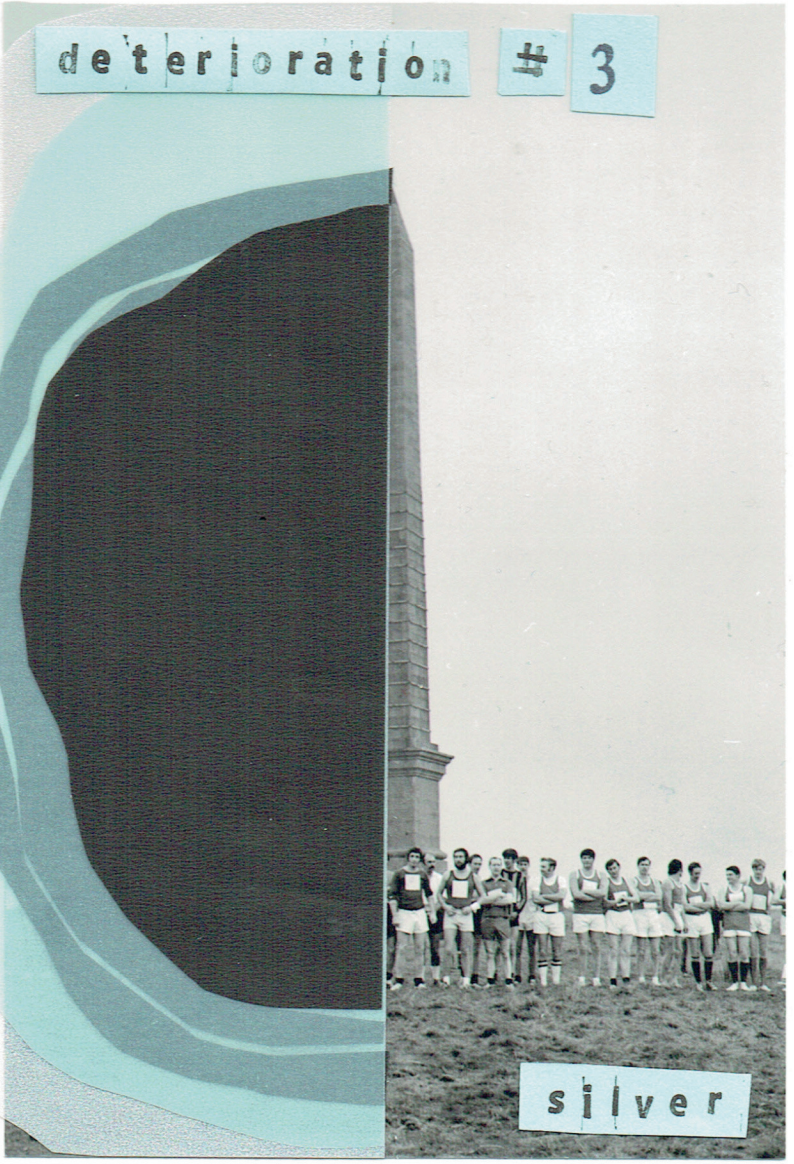
That is a fair balance between their right to withdraw labour and the public's right to be kept safe and for their own jobs or education not to suffer.

The unions, and their Labour puppets, object. They want the power to cause maximum misery. Which would be bad enough if the strikes were genuinely just about pay claims.

When they are nakedly aimed at toppling an elected Government they are indefensible and the public is entitled to protection.

glass plate

deterioration # 3



silver

mirroring

THANK YOU!

A massive thank you to everyone who helped bring this zine to life! With an extra special thanks to the following brilliant folks!: Michael, Fin and the IntoBodmin team, Deborah and the wonderful people at Kresen Kernow, Emma Bray and the staff at Bodmin College, and the man himself - George Ellis - who's artistry has inspired us to no end. Finally, big love to our fantastic group of talented young people! You've been a joy to work with and we're so proud of all your creations!

-Team BodZine x

BODZINE 4 EVER

Historic England

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